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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 09/972,873 | 10/10/2001 | Syuji Tsukamoto | 107292-00028 | 5589 |
| 25944 | 7590 | 05/16/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320 | | | PSITOS, ARISTOTELIS M | |
| | | ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | 2653 | | |

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief | Application No. 09/972,873 | Applicant(s) TSUKAMOTO, SYUJI |
| | Examiner Aristotelis M. Psitos | Art Unit 2653 |

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

THE REPLY FILED 21 April 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

a) The period for reply expires 4 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: all.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

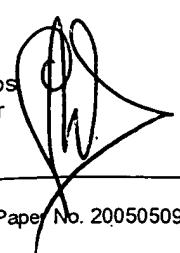
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

13. Other: see below.

Aristotelis M Psitos
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2653



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Item 3c continued: Applicants' amendments to the claims introduce the following NEW problems, and further clarification is required:

a) with respect to claims 1,4-6; the introduction of the language so as to recite a possibility, i.e., "cell is capable of being modulated" as opposed to the previous positive limitation --- is modulated ---- alters the scope of the invention and would introduce 112 problems, i.e, this is not a positive limitation. Additionally, the newly introduced ultimate paragraph also includes this conditional language and the examiner recommends submitting such limitation as a positive limitation rather than a possible limitation. Finally, with respect to claims 4-6 all dependent upon claim 1, they recite the same limitations and hence introduce duplicate limitations. The examiner recommends only one dependent claim along these lines.

b) With respect to claims 11-15 and 18-20 the following problem is introduced. Newly amended claim 11 recites the range of change in the reflectance during a specified period of time, i.e, the last quarter of the time period. However, claims 14 and 15 attempt to redefine such period of time to something other than that now claimed. This is not supported by the disclosure, and contradictory to the newly inserted language.

c) Amends after final are NOT ENTERED IN PART.

Part 13 continued. The examiner has reviewed the art, arguments and concludes that if claims could be presented along the lines submitted in amended claim 7, they would be allowable over the art of record.

Part 7 continued: The examiner's understanding of the claimed invention is predicated upon the change of reflectance residing within the range of more than 5% and less than 20% during the last quarter of the irradiation time period. As such, this would be allowable over the art of record, however, since such is not contained in the previously examined claims (a single claim as now presented and argued after final), the rejections predicated upon Ohta et al are maintained. The examiner recommends submitting appropriate amendments overcoming the above newly introduced 112 problems.